

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 89 - HB 79

February 19, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires public charter schools authorized by the Achievement School District (ASD) to conduct an initial student application period of 30 days. During the initial enrollment period, enrollment shall be limited to only those students zoned to attend or currently enrolled in a school that is eligible to be placed into the ASD. Authorizes children of staff members and other individuals affiliated with the charter school, and students who failed their proficiency testing in reading, English language arts, or mathematics, to enroll in the public charter school, if the initial capacity of the school, program, class, grade level, or building is not filled at the end of the initial enrollment period. Prohibits the population of the students that are enrolled during the second enrollment period from exceeding 25 percent of the total student population of the public charter school. Prohibits the enrollment of additional students that are within the student populations, defined under Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-13-106(b)(1)(C)(ii),(iii), or (iv), until the ASD authorized public charter school has received student achievement growth data that demonstrates growth at a level of “at expectations”. This restriction does not apply to students previously enrolled in an ASD authorized public charter school.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Additional state and local Basic Education Program (BEP) funding may shift to ASD authorized public charter schools. The extent of any such shift cannot be reasonably determined and is based on multiple unknown factors.

Assumptions:

- Based on information from the Department of Education, ASD public charter schools’ enrollment capacities and the number of open seats at the end of the current initial enrollment periods vary widely.
- No change in the BEP funding formula.
- State and local BEP funding may shift to ASD authorized public charter schools as a result of this bill. The extent of any such shift cannot be reasonably determined because such impact is based on multiple unknown factors, including, but not limited to, the capacity of ASD authorized public charter schools, programs, and grade levels each fiscal year; the number of open seats within an ASD authorized public charter school after the initial enrollment period in a fiscal year; the number of additional students that would be eligible to enroll during a subsequent enrollment period; the number of additional students who will choose to enroll during a subsequent enrollment period;

SB 89 - HB 79

whether students within ASD authorized public charter schools re-enroll annually; the number of ASD authorized public charter schools in any fiscal year; annual achievement data scores from ASD authorized public charter schools; and the rate at which ASD regular schools improve their achievement scores and are subsequently returned to their respective local education agency.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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